

The P-Patch Community Gardening Program is made up of community managed open spaces in Seattle neighborhoods. Gardeners, individually, and collectively, use small plots of land to grow organic food, flowers, fruits, and herbs.

The gardens are open to everyone to enjoy. Each garden is different and their amenities may include picnic areas, benches, public art, flower gardens, educational signage, sustainability demonstrations, and children's gardens.



Program Details

The P-Patch Community Gardening Program is managed by Seattle Department of Neighborhoods in partnership with the P-Patch Trust, a non-profit corporation.

P-Patch thrives through the dedication of many:

- Seattle Department of Neighborhoods staff
- P-Patch Trust board members
- Solid Ground's Lettuce Link staff
- Seattle Tilth staff
- 4,000+ gardeners who volunteer 18,853 hours annually (equivalent to 9 full-time staff)

P-Patch gardeners are a diverse group of Seattle residents. In 2007:

- 55% were low income
- 20% were people of color
- 48% live in apartments
- 77% had no gardening space where they live

P-Patch community gardens are a huge success — demand is high and the Department is working hard to grow capacity, as well as support other community gardening efforts.

- 1,900+ people on waiting list at end of 2009
- Waiting time is between 3 months and 3 years
- Annual turnover across whole program averages 15%
- Over a dozen P-Patches are currently being planned, designed, or constructed

P-Patch gardeners provide huge benefits to food banks:

- 40% of gardeners donate at least once a month
- Gardeners donated more than 27,400 pounds of produce in 2009

The P-Patch Community Gardening Program manages special programs for youth, low-income, and underrepresented populations:

- **The Market Garden Program** serves participants living in Seattle Housing Authority properties to garden and sell their produce to local residents. In 2009, 13 gardeners speaking 7 languages, collaborated to provide 22 weeks of produce to 56 community-supported agriculture (CSA) subscribers.
- **The Youth Gardening Program** saw a new wave of youth involvement throughout the P-Patch Program in 2009. Eight new community youth organizations acquired plots in P-Patch gardens, in addition to the 25 plots already in use. P-Patch Youth Programming conducted more than 50 gardening classes, 4 workshops, and several community service projects.

P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM: 2010 AT A GLANCE

There are 71 P-Patch sites
2,000+ garden plots,
and 4,000+ gardeners.

Over a dozen more
P-Patch gardens are
currently being planned,
designed, or constructed.

Garden plots run in
different sizes and costs:

10 x 10 – \$34
10 x 20 – \$45
10 x 40 – \$67

- Financial assistance is available for those who can't afford plot fees
- 8 hrs of volunteer time is required to maintain public areas of the P-Patch

CONTACT INFO:

P-Patch Community Gardening
Program, Seattle Department of
Neighborhoods

Phone: (206) 684-0264

Email: p-patch.don@seattle.gov

Website: www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/



P-Patch gardens have a diverse history and serve diverse needs. The first garden, Picardo Farm, was created in 1973 by a group of community residents and the City of Seattle. Since then, they have rapidly grown and continue to do so. Gardens are built on public property owned by various city departments and other public and private owners. Gardens range from small to large, and cooperative style (shared plots) to individual low-income farmers.

Oldest Site: Picardo (2.5 acres)

Newest Site: Hazel Heights in Fremont

Largest Site: Thistle (3+ acres)

Smallest Site: Pelican Tea Collective

18 Sites with ADA accessible
raised beds

3 Market Gardens

Gardens Owned by City of Seattle	Gardens Owned by Other Entities
Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	Seattle Housing Authority
Seattle Department of Trans- portation (street right of ways)	Private landowners
Seattle City Light	Metro/ King County
Seattle Department of Neighborhoods	P-Patch Trust
Fleets & Facilities	Seattle Public Schools

Priority Areas for Additional Gardens

- Alki/Admiral
- Ballard
- Broadview/
Bitter Lake
- Capitol Hill
- Cascade/Eastlake
- Central Area/
Squire Park
- Columbia City
- Fremont
- High Point
- Highland Park
- Interbay
- North Beacon Hill/
Jefferson Park
- North Delridge
- Queen Anne
- Rainier Beach
- Ravenna/Bryant
- Roxhill/Westwood
- South Park
- Wallingford
- West Seattle
Junction/
Genessee Hill
- Whittier Heights